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Organization: Mineral County Historical Society and Museum

Title: President

Comments: [External Email]comments to Lolo Revision

[attachment text pasted]

Land Management Plan Revision March 23, 2023

Lolo National Forest

24 Fort Missoula Road

Missoula, MT 59804

Attn: Amanda Milburn

Dear Amanda,

Having reviewed the Lolo National Forest Land Management Plan Proposed Action and Need to Change, the Mineral County Historical Society and Museum would like to offer the following comments.

1. The section on Forest wide Cultural and Historical Roles on page 6 should include mention of the Mullan Road as this was the first engineered Military Road and traversed west to east throughout the Lolo Forest. This road is a historical treasure contributing to the development of the area with many sections visible and intact. This resource has been recognized within later sections of the document but we believe it is significant enough to be included within the setting also.
2. Throughout the document should recognize the ability of the local non-government agencies, such as historical societies, to contribute greatly to the research to identify and develop appropriate mitigation for future permits, contracts, agreements or Special Use Permits. You should consider giving them Cooperating Agency status.
3. Prior to approval of any project full and complete research of the impacts to any cultural resource, including consultation with the local historical societies and museums, should be accomplished. This would include preservation and/or avoidance of historic or culturally significant structures, roads or sites.
4. The MCHS fully supports the goals contained within Section 2.2.4 especially 01 and 02.
5. Section 4.5 MA 5: Concentrated Recreation Use, Desired Conditions 03 should include cultural resources such as mining and Mullan Road. These are significant contributors to the history of the area that would be interesting and informative for the recreational users. We believe that the public's access to and education of cultural resources will foster use and respect of these resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this document and hope you incorporate our comments. Additionally, The Mineral County Historical Society and Museum would like to request being placed on the contact list for any further revisions/documents. Especially any subsequent permits, contracts, agreements or SUPs. You may contact us at the following address.